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The Long Island FISHERMAN

OCTOBER 25TH, 1973, ISSUE NO. 41

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CLUB NEWS

CONNECTICUT RIVER STRIPED BASS CLUB

The annual boat fishing contest of the Connecticut River Striped Bass Club was held on Sept. 16, 1973. Winners were as follows:
Biggest fish: Fred Stark; 12 lb. 12 oz. bluefish.
Most fish: Joe Bukowski; 109½ lbs. of bluefish (13 fish).
First fish: Russ Fleet; school bass.

We have a limited number of openings for interested area surf fishermen. Interested anglers can contact Russel Fleet at (203) 669-9950.

EDISON ANGLERS SEEK HELP

As head of the newly-formed "Edison Anglers" (of Thomas Edison High School), I am very much interested in obtaining the services of an experienced surf fisherman who can take a group of high school anglers surf fishing (with school faculty supervision) and explain the various facets of reading a shoreline, rigging, casting, etcetera. I would appreciate any help that could be offered.

If there is any charge for this service , I'm certain that something can be arranged.

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Faculty Advisor
Thomas Edison High School
165-65 84th Avenue
Jamaica, New York 11432
Telephone: (212) 297-6580

OUTDOORMEN 25 H&F CLUB

The Outdoorsmen 25 Hunting and Fishing Club will have as their guests Frank and Sonny from the Kenya Studios. Frank and Sonny are well-known taxidermists, and they will bring some of their work to display to the audience at the meeting.

The meeting will be on Thursday, October 25, at 8:00 P.M.

The location, as always, is 152 Driggs Avenue, Greenpoint, Brooklyn, in back of "Pete's Bar". The meeting is open to the public, and all are welcome.

HUNTER SAFETY COURSE

The Apollo Sportsmen Club will be holding Hunter Safety Courses on the following evenings: Friday, 26 October 1973, and Friday, 2 November 1973. Both courses start promptly at 8:00 P.M. at club headquarters, 465 North

The Long Island FISHERMAN

THE LARGEST WEEKLY GUIDE FOR FISHERMEN IN THE N.Y. AREA

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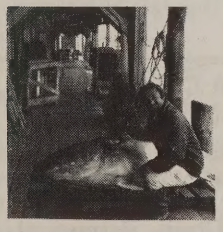
Dick Alley, Art Frey, Stu Miller, Scott Simons, Pete Barrett, Mike Zarrella



ABOUT THE COVER: Al Ristori with a 700 pound plus bluefin tuna which he took in mid-September. See Al's article about fishing for giant tuna in the fall, "Last of the Giant Tuna," on page 8.

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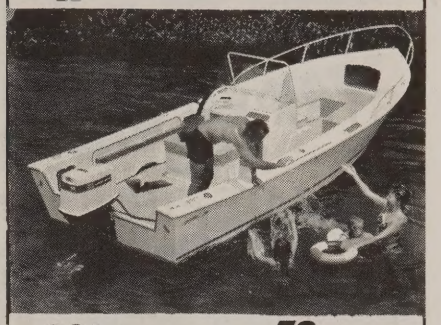

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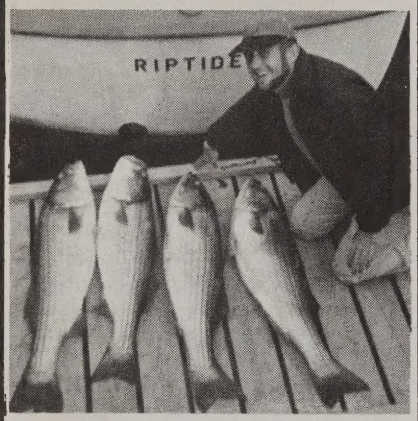

#550 HAMMERED SPOON

James Howell, trolling a 550 with pork rind on wire line in the tidal rips off Martha's Vineyard, Mass., caught these 28 to 33 lb. Striped Bass. In two months 24 Stripers of over 30 lbs. were taken by Mr. Howell on the 550, most in murky water or under overcast skies.— Great too,for:

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CO-OP CITY ANGLERS

Cod Fishing Trip: The "Misty", Galliee, Rhode Island, has been chartered for the November 11th codfishing trip to Block Island. With a maximum of seven, it has filled up. Since several additional members were interested, the captain is attempting to get another boat. Interested members contact Ivan Krupit.

Awards:

The winners are in for the "Take-a-Kid Fishing Month" and here they are:

For Pre-teen in fresh water it's Billy Paness with an 8 oz. bluegill. In the salt water Pre-teen it was Stewart Yang with a 1 lb. 5½ oz. fluke.

For the teenage group the winners are as follows: Fresh water — Ellyn Wald with a 1 lb. 9 oz. largemouth bass and the salt water winner was Lee Krupit with a 12 lb. 4 oz. bluefish.

All together there were 13 entries. On the night of Oct. 16th the awards were given out in Auditorium A of the Dreiser Loop Community Center.

BABYLON TUNA CLUB WINS U.S. ATLANTIC TUNA TOURNAMENT

For the first time in the history of this national fishing event, the BTC placed above all other entries. A 782 lb. giant Tuna, hooked and landed by Tony Gafney aboard George McCord's Pompano, took highest honors, with Al Derrico's 772 pounder close behind, aboard the Three Daughters skippered by Capt. Chas. Fischett. Artie Bethel, also aboard the 3 D's, captured a giant on the third day of fishing to supplement the club's tally and put the BTC on top!

Great South Bay Tournament — Chairman Tom Claps reported the standings of the contest's debut as follows:

Individual Division

Fluke 1. Henry Frince 4-4
2. Cliff eiring 2-10
3. Frank Picco 2-4

Weak 1. Joan Wittman 2-10
2. Art Orlandi 2-7
3. Dan Hall 1-13

Bass 1. Ed Harrison 3-8
2. Joan Hazelton 3-0
3. George Fox 2-7

Blacks 1. Bill Reinhardt 2-0
2. Bill Reinhardt 1-9
3. Bill Reinhardt 1-8
4. Cliff Eiring 1-8

Club Division

Fluke 1. Joan Olvier 3-9
2. Ed Thomas 3-6½
3. Chris Peterson 3-1

Fluke 1. Joan Wittman 2-10
2. Norman Zenke 2-5
Tom Mulligan 2-5
3. Lou Clements 2-4

Club Points

1.	Amity Harbor Tm 3	53
2.	Amity Harbor Tm 2	46
3.	Squaw Island	15
4.	Babylon Tuna Club	10
5.	Amity Harbor Tm1	9
6.	Oakdale Sportsmen	6

MONTAUK'S DEEP SEA CLUB ANNUAL FULL MOON TOURNAMENT RESULTS

The Montauk Deep Sea Club held its annual Tournament of the Full Moon for striped bass last weekend and was a huge success regardless of the weather. The awards to the winners were presented by Commodore Elbert Brown at a delicious buffet dinner after the tourney's end. The winners were:

ANGLER		BOAT	FISH WT.
1st Quarter	Carl Marino	BLACK DUCK II	40¼ lbs.
2nd Quarter	Herb Pfeiffer	GLAD-LEE	35 lbs.
3rd Quarter	Frank Berry	BLITHE SPIRIT	27 lbs.
4th Quarter	Barbara Greenfield	FILAMABOB	30 lbs.
(Tied)	Marvin Greenfield	FILAMABOB	30 lbs.
OVERALL WINNERS			
1st Place	Carl Marino	BLACK DUCK II	40¼ lbs.
2nd Place	A. Daniels	BLACK DUCKII	37 lbs.
3rd Place	Herb Pfeiffer	GLAD-LEE	35 lbs.
Women's Prize	Jesse Holzman	NIPPER	34 lbs.
Junior Prize	Michael Posillico	ANGELA	27 lbs.

Many other small awards were given out for all striped bass under 17 pounds that were weighed in.

News Releases

CONSERVATION EXPERT TO SPEAK ON WETLANDS

The wetlands, one of Long Island's most valuable natural resources, will be developed in a lecture by Anthony S. Taormina, a biologist for the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, at the first semester meeting of the Friends of the Library of Dowling College, Thursday, Oct. 25, 1973, at 8 PM in the Hunt Room. The discussion is open to the public without charge.

Taormina is the Chief Fish and Wildlife Biologist for New York State. He will primarily speak on the status of Long Island's wetlands, the wetland laws, and wetland acquisitions.

Taormina has worked in the conservation field since 1949. He is responsible for programs effecting fresh water fisheries and wildlife in the Long Island-Metropolitan area.

BIG GAME ARCHERY SEASONS

There are four separate big game archery seasons in New York this year. In order to participate in all of them except Westchester, an archer must have both his big game license and bowhunting stamp. In Westchester, no bowhunting stamp is needed. During the special archery season, the bowhunter may take a deer of either sex. If he continues to hunt with his bow during the regular firearms season, however, he may take only an antlered deer, as must gunners.

The seasons for archery are as follows:

October 11 through October 24: Northern Zone.

November 3 through November 18: Southern Zone.

November 5 through December 4: Westchester County. (No bowhunting Stamp required).

November 19 through December 4: Albany County, east of the high tension line beginning at the Greene County line in the Town of Coeymans and ending at the Schenectady County line in the Town of Guilderland.

The Albany County area referred to above is new this season, having been opened by act of the 1973 Legislature. The dates for this area are the same as the firearms big game season for the rest of the county and Southern Zone.

In addition to these general archery seasons, there are several special hunt areas throughout the State where bow hunting only is permitted during the firearms season. A number of State Parks, for example, permit hunts of this type. The most widely known special bow hunt is the Howland Island Bow Hunt which is conducted on the first Saturday of the Southern Zone firearm big game season. This year it will be Saturday November 24, and, as in the past, will likely attract more than 1,000 archers.

For details on these hunts, contact your regional Fish and Wildlife office. Information on the big game season generally and archery, in particular, may be found in the 1973 Big Game Season Guide, available wherever licenses are sold. For further information call: Arthur Woldt (518) 457-5400.

SIXTH ANNUAL LONG ISLAND SOUND CONFERENCE

Saturday, December 1, 1973 at the New York Ocean Science Laboratory, Montauk, New York.

Theme: "Current Research in an Urban Sea: Long Island Sound."

Purpose: To bring together all those engaged or interested in research on Long Island Sound (defined broadly) in an informal atmosphere to discuss the problems, current research and future projects; exchange ideas; make joint plans; avoid duplications; and generally keep current on studies of Long Island Sound.

Procedure: Brief presentations (15 minutes) of recently completed or ongoing research on Long Island Sound, its waters, related lands, biota, socio-economic systems, management problems, etc., may be at any level: advanced, post-graduate, graduate, undergraduate; followed by question and answer period (10 minutes).

Equipment Available: Motion picture, slide, overhead projectors.

Registration and Presentation fees: None.

Act Now! Anyone wishing to be on the program must send name of prospective speaker, address, title of proposed presentation, and two copies of 200 word abstract to:

Dr. Rudolph Hollman
New York Ocean Science Laboratory
Drawer EE
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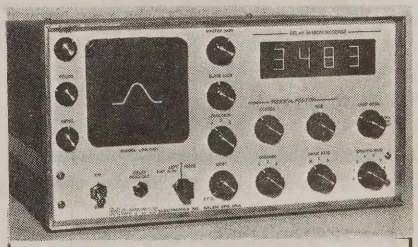

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Inexpensive Gourmet's Delight
STUFFED SQUID (CALAMARI)
by Trudie Sciacca

Throughout the rivers and oceans of the world a vast variety of fish abound. If we were to make a comparison with the varieties of meat we eat, we would immediately become aware that fish far outnumber types of animal flesh sold locally. We each know that cooked meat has its own aroma and distinctive flavor: beef, pork, veal, lamb, and even fowl; no matter how many spices are used when they are cooked or "doctored-up", each variety is different on your palate.

So it is with fish: there are the bland, the strong tasting and even some that do not even taste the least bit fishy. On other continents, fish is consumed in far greater quantities than in this country. We have been informed via our magazines and other media that we should include fish in our diet at least once or twice a week, and forego animal fats if we wish to reduce our cholesterol buildup.

Many persons are unfamiliar with cooking and preparing many kinds of fish, and are afraid of what the end result will taste like. Many others just do not like to clean fish.

Here is a good, inexpensive recipe whose ingredients can be obtained locally at your supermarket (purchase squid cleaned). A neighbor of mine was once horrified when I stated that I was making stuffed squid for my family for supper. "Trudie" she said, "You were born and raised in England. How come you are using the same junk that my husband uses for bait?" The explanation is simple: my mother in law was of Italian descent and squid are widely used in Italy.

This is a family favorite recipe. For the novice unfamiliar with squid, the tube or body purchased pre-cleaned from the store is snow white, the flavor when cooked resembles lobster. Do not overcook — squid tend to get rubbery when this happens.

Cleaned squid can be cut with scissors in ¼ inch circles, dipped in flour and then deep fried in oil till brown. Put the rings on a dish with paper towelling to absorb the grease, and then squeeze lemon juice all over: this makes an excellent appetizer.

STUFFED SQUID

1. Place Progresso or Ragu marinara sauce (2-3 lb. jar) into a saucepan and heat over a medium heat until the sauce starts to boil. Turn heat low and let simmer. Stir occasionally
2. Rinse squid inside and out under cold water and pat dry with paper towels.
3. Into a mixing bowl spoon the ricotta cheese, grating cheese and parsley. Crack open your egg and beat the mixture together. Add salt and pepper. The consistency of the mixture should not be too stiff.
4. Slit each tube (squid body) about one inch from the top with scissors, then spoon the cheese mixture into the body until two thirds full. Close the top with a toothpick, in, out and through the squid.
5. Gently drop them in the hot sauce; they will expand to almost one and a half times their previous size. Any cheese mixture you may have over can be spooned and stirred into the sauce.
6. Add red flaked pepper if you desire that extra tang.
7. Cook over medium heat for ten minutes. Do not overcook!
8. Pour or ladle sauce over cooked linguine (macaroni) and add extra grating cheese, if desired, on sauce. (1 lb. macaroni should adequately feed three persons).

Bon Appetito

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Final Fling

by Vlad Evanoff

If I had to choose a spot or two for the final fling in the surf for the rest of the season, I wouldn't hesitate to pick Rhode Island and/or Montauk; I would expect to stand a good chance of getting into some hot surf fishing.

In fact, when I had more time to fish I would take off the entire month of October and spend it in Rhode Island, fishing from the surf and boats. Then early in November I would head out to Montauk, on Long Island, and wind up the surf and boat fishing for striped bass for the year. I rarely failed to catch fish in these two spots if I spent at least a few days fishing, and fished in these two spots every chance I got.

October is a beautiful month in Rhode Island with cool, crisp nights and mild Indian Summer days — with the stripers and blues migrating and feeding along its rocky shores and sand beaches. If you hit it right you don't even have to spend a whole month fishing in Rhode Island to get action. On one trip a few years back, another angler and I spent only five days there and we caught stripers EVERY day! We wound up with a total of 30 stripers for the trip, most of them caught from shore.

The thing I like best about Rhode Island is that you have plenty of rocky shores and sand beaches, and lots of elbow room in which to fish. Along the rocks you rarely get too crowded, since most of the points or reefs are good for only one or two anglers; the next angler is usually some distance away from you. Of course, along some of the larger boulders and rock jetties you may run into picket lines or groups of anglers fishing, but you don't have to fish there; you can go down the line and find another spot equally productive.

And, once you get to know the Rhode Island coast, you can catch stripers from the same spots year after year. The rocky formations — boulders, cliffs and reefs — do not change even in hurricanes or northeast storms, and remain about the same. Once you find a good spot and take some fish from it, you can be assured other stripers will be found feeding at the same locations in the future.

These Montauk Point surf anglers wait in their beach buggies for the fish to show.

Another thing that makes Rhode Island a great striper coastline is that the varied shores enable you to use almost any kind of tackle. You may need a heavy surf outfit in some spots, such as Pt. Judith, to get out far enough to reach the fish, but along most of Rhode Island's shore the fish work in close, with deep water nearby. A light or medium weight surf outfit can be used with success. I've even used a one-handed spinning outfit with 8 lb. test line to catch the smaller school fish in the coves and pockets near shore when the surf wasn't too rough.

One very good reason that Rhode Island is a popular spot on my list is that during the fall you catch not only plenty of schoolies, but you also have a good chance of nailing a big, cow bass in the 40, 50 and even 60 pound class. Not often, of course, but they are there, and your odds are better than in most spots at this time of year.

Although stripers and blues are apt to show up anywhere along the Rhode Island shore, some spots are more productive year after year than others. One such hot spot is Anawan, a few miles north of the town of Narragansett, and going south from there you find Frenchman's Rock, Fort Varnum, the Clumps, River Rock and Narrow River, Dunes Club Beach, Old Coast Guard Station, Monahan's Cove, Flat Rock, Gunning Rock, Newton Ave. Swimming Pool, Wanamaker's Nathan's Cove, Black Point, Quohog Rock, Stewart's and the Sheep's Pen. Of course, you can't always get in to fish these spots easily since either parking is difficult or private roads are closed. But here, again, access is better in the fall than during the summer months.

Along the south shore of Rhode Island you can fish such spots as the Pt. Judith Lighthouse and Breakwater, Matunuck, Green Hill, Charlestown Beach and Inlet, Quonochontaug, Weekapaug and Watch Hill. Charlestown Beach and Inlet are famed for the big stripers they produce for surf and boat fishermen. Here big plugs, rigged eels, live eels and plastic eels are your best bet.

After fishing Rhode Island until the end of October, I'd head back to New York and then run out to Montauk for the grand finale. Of course, like any other place, you have to choose the right days for the best action. The boats, especially the charter boats, have more consistent action day in and day out, but the surf angler has to choose the periods when stripers or blues move close to shore within reach of his lures.

Personally, I prefer to fish the Montauk surf just before, during and right after a strong blow or storm. A northeaster, southeaster or ground swells which create big waves to pile up on the rocky bars, reefs and points will generally provide some striper action.

Usually the period just before and

(Continued on page 31)

Last of the GIANT TUNA

by Al Ristori

Throughout their northern range, giant tuna will continue to provide action during the month of October and, perhaps, even into November. Therefore, if you're ever going to give this incredible sport a try, now is the time to do it.

Fishing at Prince Edward Island usually lasts through mid-October, though the weather this month makes fishing an "iffy" proposition. After leaving Prince Edward the tuna seem to head for the Canso Causeway where they corral schools of herring before heading south. Best fishing in that area of Cape Breton Island occurs in early November. Indeed, the world record 1065 pounder was taken there in mid-November a few years ago.

Closer to home, a pick of giant tuna continues at the Mud Hole, though the action that developed at Montauk in September appears to have died out. Just as was the case all summer, the best catches in the United States continue to come from the Gloucester area. Giants are being caught at both Stellwagen Bank (about 16 miles from Gloucester) and in Ipswich Bay, which at least serves to break up the ever expanding fleet to some extent.

Actually the best giant tuna action of the year occurred at the very beginning of the run. John Walton took his boat "Chief Josepth Brant" to Gloucester in early July when he received word that the first tuna had been harpooned. A week of experimenting produced nothing but he finally got into the giants when they settled down on Stellwagen Bank and had a week or two of great action. Three and four giants a day was routine then and, best of all, the fish could be chummed to the surface. In fact, one day he had them so high that they were able to tag a half dozen of the free swimming fish! However, to demonstrate the pressure these fish are under, two of the tagged tuna were recovered by rod and reel fishermen the next day and a third was taken by a seiner working near Cape Cod several weeks later.

By August a huge fleet of private boats (many from Long Island) had arrived in Gloucester, and they were joined by many local handliners who were tempted by the relatively high prices, which never dropped below $.30 a pound for headed and gutted tuna. This was in contrast to just eight cents a pound, which was the prevailing price last year, except of the very beginning and end of the season. As a result the grounds were always crowded, particularly on weekends. This seemed to really effect fishing. Either the numbers of fish available were sharply reduced from the past two years or the quantity of chum being poured into the water each weekend made the giants excessively wary. In any case, weekend fishing was spotty by Mondays almost always produced good sport.

Hearing reports of the big crowds and spotty fishing, I decided to wait until after Labor Day to make my move. On September 6, I drove up to fish with Eddie Murray of Amityville on his boat "Cookie". Eddie had told me that dark days were best for fishing this year and I sure picked a winner in that respect. It was blowing southeast and we had thick fog, besides. A light rain dripped from the skies

Jay and Billy De Noia unload two giants taken by the author aboard their "White Stallion" in mid-September.

occasionally, but we were spared the tornados and other violent weather that we later found had been forecast.

The fishing that week had been picky. After the usual slow weekend, Tuesday was wild but Wednesday was dead again. On Thursday everything was fine except the easterly wind, which Eddie doesn't like of tuna fishing. Jay and Billy De Noia of Groton, Connecticut (owners of the charter boat "White Stallion") were along on a busman's holiday, and helped set up the four rods that we set out in Ipswich Bay that morning.

Eddie explained that the multitude of rods was an advantage in that the fish were well-scattered throughout the 200-250 foot depths of the Bay. By using four rods we'd by able to fish baits at 60, 80, 100 and 120 feet. Patiently we chummed, cutting herring into several pieces and dropping generous quantities into the heaving seas. After an hour and a half, there was a strike on the rod at 80 feet and a real Chinese fire drill commenced as we fell all over each other trying to get the other three rods in. Eddie immediately started up the engines and pulled the Pelican hook to drop us off our anchor buoy.

However, this fish just didn't act right. He took very little line and we were afraid that a blue shark had taken the bait. After clearing the cockpit, I climbed into the chair and simply powered the fish in with the 130 lb. tackle. I assumed it was a shark, though it gave a few head shakes typical of a tuna. Within a minute the fish was at the surface and, lo and behold, we had a tuna. To be sure, it was the smallest tuna

I'd ever seen in these waters — a mere 400 pounds — but it was still highly unusual that he let me reel him to the surface as simply as that. Billy De Noia got most of the fight when he stuck the gaff in — in fact, he came up soaked!

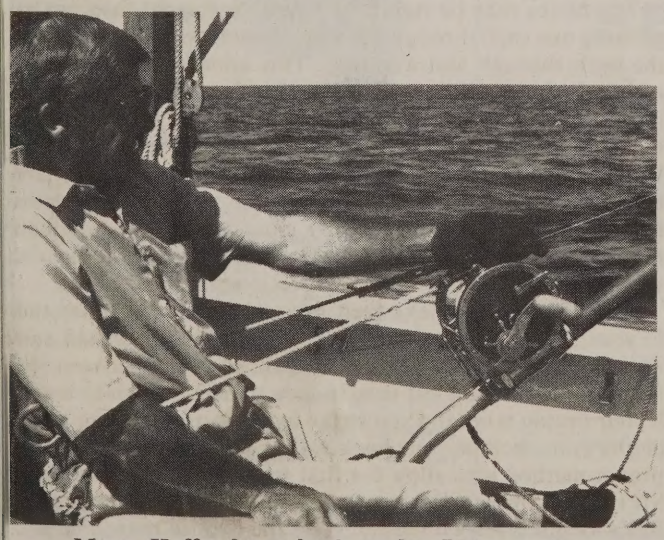
Up to that point we'd seen nothing on the recording fathometer. Then, suddenly, we were marking schools of tuna at varying depths, but as close to the surface as 30 feet. As long as we kept chumming heavily they'd stay with us, though not a bite could we get on any of our lines. I used a "test line" (a light spinning rig with a herring tied on lightly so that it will pull off as soon as a tuna hits it) and got strikes almost immediately — as high as 18 feet. In desperation, Eddie decided to fish with only two rods and work them by hand; that is, continually drop them down and retrieve them again rather than just letting them hang in the water.

We finally fooled one of those smart fish, but the hook pulled out after a 15 minute fight. Back at the buoy, we soon had the fish under us again and Eddie dropped a herring tail into a waiting mouth. This was a fine tuna to fight since he stayed on the surface and provided some smoking runs: fifty minutes later we had the big fish alongside and gaffed. Despite being bled (so we could handle it safely) and held overnight in the boat, it weighed 805 pounds the next morning.

Unfortunately, that cloudy, rough day was the last time this fall that I was to see only a few boats fishing in this area. The following week was time for the U.S.A.T.T., held for the first time this year at Gloucester. For this tournament the results were outstanding, but for Gloucester it was mighty poor fishing. Only 16 tuna were boated by over 100 boats in three days, though many more than that were lost. Star of the show was Charley Fishett's "Three Daughters" which took two giants and led the Babylon Tuna Club to a runaway victory with three fish. No other club had more than one!

I fished with the Rockaway Inlet Tuna Club on Dick Ericson's "Three of a Kind", which is based in Gloucester. On the third day we finally got lucky. Two fish marked on the machine at 100 feet and, as Marty Hoffer of New York was reeling up the 120 foot line, one of the tuna hit the live whiting. Marty did a fine job on the fish and had him alongside, though somewhat "green", in 44 minutes. Marty rarely takes the rod himself, but rather prefers to wire the fish, a job at which he has few peers. On this day, however, the roles were reversed and I was the wireman.

The powerful fish was still full of fight as he came alongside, and Marty was barely able to get the swivel out of the water. I reached way over and just managed to get my hands (with doubled gloves) on the wrap below the swivel. Determined not to foul up our only strike of the tournament, I hung on for dear life and finally was able to lift the fish a bit and get my left hand further down on the wire. As I continued lifting the fish to bring him within gaffing range, I felt something cutting into my shoulder. At that point I had an even better reason for hanging on — if the tuna took the taut wire out of my hands, whatever was cutting into me would lay open my shoulder!



Marty Hoffer leans back on his 754 pounder.

Fortunately, the gaff man hit the mark and we were "on the board". It turned out that the pressure I had initially exerted on the wrap had opened up some loops in it and that was what was cutting me. Luckily it didn't cut too deeply, and I can just add that scar to the many others I've accumulated in fishing.

Marty's fish went 754 pounds and was the third largest of the contest. Indeed, the largest wasn't much bigger, which was amazing when one considers that 800 pounders were relatively common this year; yet not one was taken in the U.S.A.T.T.! Marty's tuna really was worth blood. It left us with the "two boat team" crown and most of the trophies that Babylon didn't run away with.

I wish I could file a good report on the rest of the fall but so far it's been disappointing in comparison with the previous two years. I did get lucky and catch six giants in six days one week, as I was on the right boat at the right place almost every day. However, the next week my luck evened out and I was hitless in three days of hard fishing. On each day of fishing, our fathometers marked only occasional, scattered fish rather than the schools we used to see. Never did the fish follow our chum to the surface, as was the case frequently during the past two years. In Ipswich Bay the tuna were super fussy, rarely hitting anything but live bait (primarily whiting and ling) which you had to work hard to obtain on the spot.

Worst of all, however, was the increase in pressure. Rather than letting down after the summer, it actually increased as the price sky-rocketed. Giant tuna are worth a fortune in Japan, and Japanese firms are buying up the fish as fast as they are brought to the docks. Some of them are actually air shipped the next day all the way to Tokyo. By last September the price was up to $1.05, and I've since heard that it's advanced to $1.20. Withh this incentive, anyone that owns anything that floats is out in the Bay or on the Banks, from dawn till dusk, with handlines scattered all around the boat, waiting for that one fish that will be worth $600 or more. Rarely are tuna under 600 pounds taken any longer. My smallest in mid-September was 655 lbs., while the others were all in the 700's.

As previously noted in these columns, intense commercial exploitation of school tuna in the past decade has practically eliminated the smaller giants. A few of these smaller fish are taken at the Mud Hole but they're certainly not abundant. At Gloucester and Prince Edward there are only super-giants, and their numbers are continually dwindling as the pressure increases. With virtually no recruitment from recent year classes and intense pressure on the fishery, the outlook for giant tuna is dim indeed.

Frank Mather of the Woods Hole Oceanographic Foundation has been warning about this for years, but it's only recently that government officials have started to take him seriously. Indeed, Frank told me the other day that even the commercial interests are now concerned and willing to take conservation measures. Let's hope this is true, for, otherwise, I fear that the Japanese price war will almost certainly lead to the virtual demise of the greatest of marine warriors, the giant tuna!

BLACKFISH

By Don Vetter

There are two members of the wrasse family, which encompasses such tropical species as parrotfish, that inhabit our northern waters; one is a much sought after food and sport fish, the other a despised, ubiquitous bait-stealer. The former is the blackfish or tautog (**Tautoga onitis**) and the latter, the cunner or bergall (**Tautogolabrus adspersus**). Both have and affinity for wrecks, rocks, bridge pilings, or any submerged structures which encourage the growth of mussels or other shellfish which comprise a large portion of their diet.

Although closely related, even a juvenile blackfish, which would approximate in size the average bergall, is easily distinguishable. The tautog is chunkier through the body, with a more blunt head than the trimmer bergall. The markings tend to black with some white in places, while the bergall displays a gray or greenish-gray cast. The white chin, rubbery lips and chisel-shaped teeth confirm the idenity of the blackfish.

Nature designed the blackfish with the habitat he prefers in mind. The tough hide serves him well among the sharp rocks and barnacle-encrusted pilings of his domain. His coloration and markings are such as to make him blend so well with his environment that he almost disappears from the view of an underwater observer, when seen against the background of the submerged portion of a rock jetty. His big rabbit-like teeth are designed for dislodging and crushing shellfish, and a second set, located in the throat, serve for grinding his hard-shelled dinner.

The spring and fall of the year see the seasonal peaks of blackfish feeding activity. While substantial numbers of blacks are taken in the months of May and June, it is the fall months of October and November which provide the angler the greatest opportunity to catch blackfish. Scientific studies (New York Fish and Game Journal, Vol. 9 #1) have shown that the catch per effort reaches its highest level in the fall of the year, indicating that this is indeed the time for blackfishing.

Though the tautog's size range (1 to 10 pounds on the average, with the exceptional fish reaching near 20) would seem to argue for rather light tackle, his obstruction-filled habitat and extraordinary fighting ability all but rule it out; indeed many fishermen consider the blackfish to be the strongest fighter of all bottom fish. A relatively stiff rod, either spinning or conventional, is called for to haul up a black before he can streak to some nook in the rockpile, and sever your line at his leisure. A monofilament line testing no less than 30 pounds is in order, as it must have the ability to withstand considerable abrasion without parting. The reel's drag should be set tight, for a black must be horsed up quickly and without finesse.

Oldtimers will remember when blackfish hooks came in pairs on a length of tarred line; I have several of these antiques gathering dust in the attic. The snells may have evolved to nylon monofilament, but the distinctive Virginia pattern is still the best blackfish hook around. The wide bite, slight offset and short barb which mark the Virginia blackfish hook are designed to insure quick penetration. Sizes range from #8 to #2, with the #6 hook the best all around for the average-sized inshore black. The barb must be kept needle sharp, for those tough mouthed, light biters can be tricky to hook.

A mess of small tautog, taken by the author in one of his hotspots.

Soft baits (seaworms, clams, mussels) will take blackfish readily, and only the presence of that champion of all bait-stealers, the bergall, in so many blackfishing grounds, prevents their wide use. Due to the prevalence of bergalls, crabs, referred to as "hard" baits, are most commonly employed for blackfishing. Fiddlers and green crabs are the two used, and there is a marked difference in the method of hooking them; the fiddler being impaled whole on the hook, while the larger green crab is usually cut and used only a piece at a time. Hermit crabs and even juvenile blueclaws (though illegal) are sometimes pressed into service as blackfish baits.

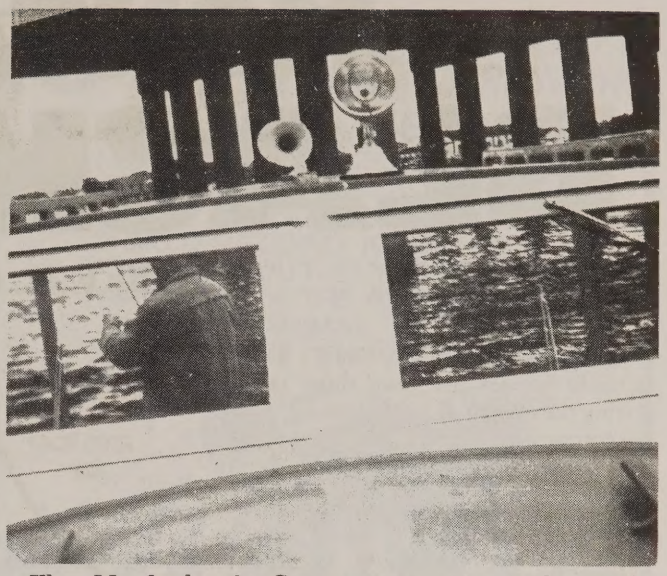
The hooks may be rigged in a pair, Seabright fashion, by pushing one snell through the loop of another, then threading the barb through and knotting. This allows a two-hook rig with a single connection to the line, but is somewhat prone to foul on the bottom. A better method is to affix two hooks, one ten inches above the other, to the line with three way swivels. Where the bottom is really snag infested, and rig losses are common, a single hook rig makes more sense. In any case, the lowest hook should be rather close to the sinker, which may range in weight from 2 to 6 ounces, depending on the strength of the current at the location you fish.

Blackfish usually make their presence felt at the other end of your line with a series of light taps. There is an old saw about the right time to strike a blackfish being between the third and fourth tap but it is, in fact, a difficult fish to hook; if your timing is off and you strike too soon or too late, a bit of empty crab-shell on your hook will be your only reward. The proper method is to allow the first tentative tap or two, then lift the rod tip rapidly, but smoothly. If the resistance of a fish's weight is felt on the lift, raise the tip still more sharply, to drive home the barb.

The type of area to fish for blackfish seems to vary with which shore of the Island you happen to be fishing. The south shore blackfish grounds are either bridge abutments or wrecks (inshore and offshore), while rock jetties are the favored locations on the Sound side. This is not to say the south shore jetties produce no blacks, nor that the bridges on the western Sound Throg's Neck, Whitestone etc.) do not do likewise. For fishing a wreck, and in most bridge situations, the boatman is at an advantage; the jetties may best be fished by the shore caster with the fortitude to venture out on their often treacherous rock surfaces. The object of the game is to get as close to whatever obstruction you desire to fish. I have seen times when I had maneuvered my boat as close to a jetty as I dared without having to invest in a new propeller on the morrow, and watched in fishless frustation as a rock-hopping jetty jockey caught black after black within spitting distance of me.

While some of the south shore wrecks produce respectable numbers and sizes of blackfish, I would have to give the nod to Long Island Sound as the Island's prime tautog grounds. The jetties of the western sound are noted for their fine blackfishing, and rightly so, but, for sheer size, I would choose the eastern end. Orient Point regularly produces outstandingly large blackfish, and offers the additional advantage in that bergalls are not quite as thick there as in most other areas; in fact it is one of the few areas where I have been able to get along by using "soft" baits.

Having amassed a nicely bulging sackful of blackfish, many anglers find themselves in something of quandry when it comes to cleaning their catch. The method I use (which is probably far from the best, judging from the time it takes men to go through a mess of tautog) is to behead and eviscerate the fish in the normal manner, then make a slit on either side of the dorsal fin with a sharp knife. Drawing the knife up under the corner at the head end of each slit is the next step. The corner is then grasped with a pair of pliers and the skin peeled off, leaving the firm pink flesh intact.



The Meadowbrook Causeway spans provide good blackfish action for boatmen.

Whether you take your blacks from the rail of a party boat, anchored over one of the south shore wrecks, or by the more arduous method of hopping from rock to rock on a Sound side jetty, the end result will be the same when you sniff the savory aroma of tautog, rolled in cornmeal, and frying in butter in the old skillet.

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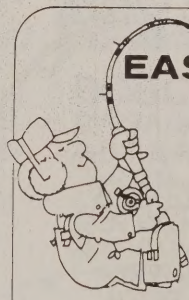

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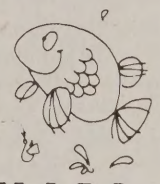

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Check MUST accompany this application.

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Debs Inlet—Henning's Fishing Station, West of Atlantic Beach Bridge

Rockaway Inlet—Stella Maris Fishing Station, Sheepshead Bay.

MONTAUK BLACK BASS

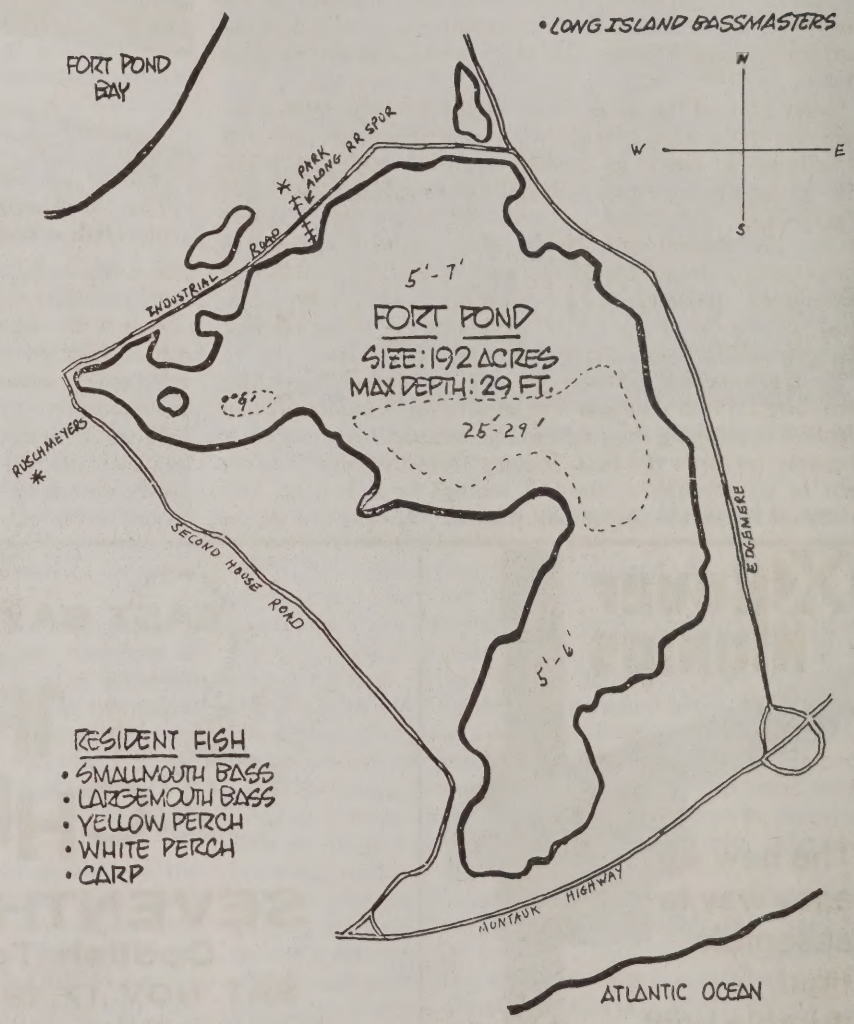
by E.H. Glasshagel

Fall bass in my record books indicate heavier fish than those taken during the month of June. Yes, sir! Any bass man with the lust for hawg-sized bass should hit his favorite water from now until November 30th, or when ice forms solid in the guides — which ever comes first.

Fort Pond at Montauk, which is number one in my book when it comes to hawg bass, is not exactly a hop and skip away as it is exactly 87 miles from the front door of The Long Island Fisherman Building. Facilities are very limited, and everyone traveling any distance without a car top boat would be advised to telephone RUSCHMEYERS at MOntauk 8-2912 or MOntauk 8-2877 and make arrangements to utilize one of the two fine glass boats that are on the Pond for their guests.

The angler with his own boat can launch at the railroad siding which is indicated on the map. Electric motors are allowed, but gas motors are prohibited. When parking, please park your car so that additional anglers will not have difficulty launching, and stay as far away from the railroad tracks as possible. Rubber rafts and the like are not recommended; when the wind kicks up the water can become pretty rough. This is an ideal time for a monster bass to pick up a plastic worm that is kicking around, so stay on the water as long as possible. When the water becomes too rough early in the day, I usually move to Fresh Pond, which is more sheltered from the wind, at Hither Hills State Park. (An article on Fresh Pond will follow.)

All tackle and bait must be brought along as there are no dealers in the area that carry nightcrawlers, plastic worms, plugs, etcetera. My recommendations for plastic worms are the Lindy 9" in purple or black; Lindy yellow Single Spin dressed with a yellow Mann grub; and a Shakespeare wood Brawler, Sr. in black scale with a yellow belly and, to my knowledge, now found only in Leisure Time Stores in Williston Park.



When fishing Fort Pond, work the shoreline surrounding the deep water, as indicated on the map, down into the depths of 18-20 feet. No, I have never found bass out in the middle of the Pond, since bass like the shallows where they have a quick escape route to deep water. The professional bass men will disagree with me, as they fish from the deep up into the shallow water, but only this last week on Fort Pond, when the bass pictured in the photograph were taken, did I work shallow to deep and totaled more heavier fish than a fabulous team that was also on the Pond. The bass were feeding in two feet of water.

The angler who really desires the fighter of the black bass family will also thrill when one of the many smallmouths takes off with his bait. Considering Fresh Pond on Shelter Island and Laurel Lake in Laurel, the only other Long Island waters with smallmouths, Fort Pond again rates as Number one.

N.Y. STATE BIG GAME

BY FRED GUARDINEER

1973 DEER SEASON

NORTHERN ZONE, OCT. 25 - DEC. 4
SOUTHERN & WESTERN ZONE, NOV. 19 - DEC. 4
NO SUNDAY HUNTING IN WESTERN ZONE.
3-INCH ANTLER MINIMUM EXCEPT WITH PARTY PERMIT.

1973 BEAR SEASON

NORTHERN ZONE OCT. 25 - DEC. 4
SOUTHERN ZONE NOV. 19 - DEC. 4
BEARS AVERAGE 200 - 300 LBS.
WORLD RECORD IS 660 LBS.
TAKEN ABOUT 10 YRS. AGO NEAR ARIETTA IN THE ADIRONDACKS.
TOUGHEST ANIMAL TO DRAG OUT - DON'T SHOOT IT IF YOU CAN'T DRAG IT.

THE ANIMALS PICTURED

BELOW ALSO ROAM THE UPSTATE WOODS, ARE NOT PROTECTED AND CAN BE TAKEN ANYTIME BY HUNTERS. IT'S DUMB LUCK WHEN YOU SHOOT ONE OF THESE BECAUSE YOU CAN GO YOUR WHOLE LIFE AND NEVER SEE ONE!

FOX ARE PLENTIFUL AND WARY.

BOBCATS AVERAGE 20 LBS. AND EAT ANYTHING THEY CAN CATCH.

COYOTES ARE REPORTED ON THE INCREASE IN THE ADIRONDACKS AND MATE WITH WILD AND FERAL DOGS... A REAL SMART CANINE.

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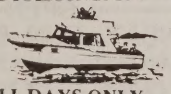
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South Shore Report

MONTAUK

Capt. Brad Glas of the Hel-Cat said they are still pulling plenty of jumbo blues from the Race. Saturday was a little breezy but Sunday provided perfect seas. Average catches are 8 to 10 fish per man, with the better fishermen bagging 15 and more. Capt. Brad said he expects the bluefishing at the Race to hold up well into the latter part of November. An occasional bass is mixed in with the blues.

Cox's Ledge suddenly came to life Saturday after a rash of dogfish on Thursday and Friday which disappeared as fast as it came. Capt. Les Behan of the Peconic Queen II reported excellent catches of very big fish on both Saturday and Sunday. Walter Springer of Highlands, N.J. took Saturday's pool of $270. with a 52 lb. cod. Sunday's pool was taken by A. Parker of Ridgewood, N.Y. with a 53 lb. cod. Capt. Behan also reported quite a few bluefish, humpbacked porgies, fluke, hake and an abundance of very large sea bass topping 5 and 6 lbs. The Peconic Queen will fish the Ledge for the foreseeable future until the fishing slows and they move to the inshore grounds.

Capt. Howie Carroll of the Jigger III has been scoring with bluefish in garbage-can figures at the Cartwright

Mrs. Dora Faison of Montclair, N.J. holds a 6 lb. sea bass she caught in addition to 93 porgies and sea bass aboard the Viking Skipper. It should be noted that this sea bass is a women's world record in any of the line classes, however, the fish was not registered.

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Jack's★Starstream★ BIG BLUES
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6:30 am
JACK VI FLUKE—NITE BLUES
7:30AM 7PM
CAPT. BILL MIESCHBERGER CHARTER BOATS AVAILABLE (516) FR 9-2753

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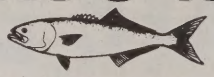
CAPT AL

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At the Ft. of Long Beach Bridge, Island Park

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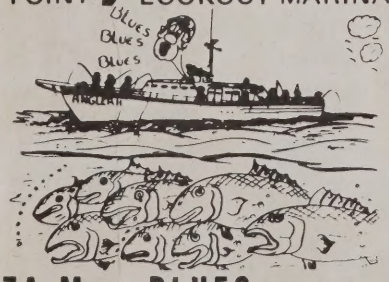

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Grounds. Fishermen are taking upwards of fifteen 8-12 lb. blues each, using drails and whole fish drifted off the bottom.

Trolling the area around the Point is producing 20-25 fish in the 10 lb. class and 40 bluefish reports Capt. Dick Vigilant of the Triton II. The Captain said he trolled one bass of 38 lbs. this week.

Capt. Sundberg of the charter boat Montauk said that bluefish still have a slight edge over the bass. During the week he has been trolling 15-20 bass of 10-30 lbs. ad anywhere from 25 to 40 bluefish. Fish are everywhere from the Point all the way down the south side.

Johnny's Tackle Shop said the past weekend was poor for surf fishing, however, it is about par for this time of year. The past two weekends were very good and all the signs for a good run are in evidence. Porgy fishing is still good. Flounders are being caught by the jetties of the harbor.

Capt. Bud Dorman of the Viking Skipper had a triple tie for high hook on Saturday. Ben MacPherson and Ernie Lewis of the Bronx along with Artie Miller of Somerset, N.J. each had 156 porgies and sea bass while fishing the North Grounds. Sunday was also one of the better days, with twelve of the twenty one people aboard having over 100 fish each. The high hook on Sunday had 164 fish.

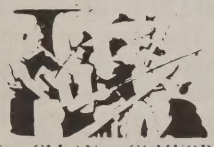
Rick Reilly of the Montauk Marine Basin called to report an unusual catch this past Saturday. Stanley Butmankiewitz and his daughter, Margaret, 9, were fishing aboard the family boat, Happy Daze. Two weeks ago the whole family, including his wife, Karen, and youngest daughter, Elizabeth, 8, had participated in Montauk Marine Basin's Family Fall Fishing Contest. Elizabeth had won the Jr. Girl's Division with a 13 lb. 3 oz. blue. This week, however, Karen and daughter Liz stood home to attend a bridal shower. Trolling between the Point and Great Eastern with umbrella rigs, Margaret quickly landed 10 blues and 2 bass, dropping another. Suddenly her rod doubled over and wire line rapidly peeled off the spool, leading her father to believe they had snagged bottom. He backed the boat down until the line was straight down and took the rod from Margaret. The fish wouldn't budge, but after 45 minutes of pumping and swear the leader finally came into view, followed by a tremendous mass of white. He struck it with a gaff but couldn't lift it, so he hit it with a second gaff and boated the fish with helping hands from Margaret. Returning to the Montauk Marine Basin, some 75 people gathered at the dock, all guessing at the species. Capt. Carl Darenberg, owner of the basin, called Dr. Herbert Austin at the N.Y. Ocean Science Laboratory at Montauk for identification. Dr. Austin arrived and quickly identified the 71 lb. monster as a torpedo electric ray, capable of killing a man if improperly handled. The ray uses electric current to stun its victim. So now Margaret has a fish story to top Elizabeth's—until one of the sisters makes her next fishing trip.

PROMISED LAND

Bluefish are still hanging in on the east side of Gardiner's and off Promised Land, says Art Brand of the Promised Land Fishing Station. Blackfishing at Gardiner's Island is very

CAPTREE

CAPTREE



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FLOUNDER 7 AM
CAPTREE -TACKLE AVAILABLE
Capt. Frank Swanson 661-6316

Ronald Kuczynski's mother holds the 21¾ lb. fluke which he caught while fishing Shinnecock Inlet. The doormat took a whole squid rigged on a 7/0 hook for bluefish. Photo courtesy of Tony's Fishing Station.

good. The porgies are just about finished here. Striped bass from keeper size to about 6 lbs. are being trolled on the east side of Gardiner's Island and north of Cartwright. The flounder fishing will improve with the coming of the colder weather.

SAG HARBOR

Dan McLane of the Bayview Tackle & Bait reports the porgies are still in good. Some flounders are being caught at Cedar Point and the Northwest Harbor area. School bass are being taken at the South Ferry area on bucktails.

SHINNECOCK

Excellent blackfishing on the wrecks in Peconic Bay, reports Capt. Clark Bellows, Jr. of the Capt. Clark. On Wednesday, 11 fares scored with a fantastic 385 blackfish up to 8 lbs. Fiddler crabs are the bait and are available on board the Capt. Clark. Peconic flounder fishing is still slow but should pick up as soon as the water temperature drops a little more.

HAMPTON BAYS

A few striped bass are being plugged in the early A.M. at the Shinnecock Inlet area. These fish go from schoolies up to 22 lbs. and they are being caught on surface poppers. Blackfish seem to be plentiful both in the Peconic Bay and the canal. Hampton Bays' Buoy #18 is the best bet for flounders.

Steve Denes of Oakdale called to say that although he and his party did not do well on flounders, there were plenty of bluefish outside of the Shinnecock Inlet.

MORICHES

"Fantastic blackfishing," reports Capt. Ron Schlueter of the Alma. Saturday he fished the rocks in the inlet and loaded up with 350-400 blacks by 10:30. Fiddler crabs score, but bring your own. Plenty of flounder action at Great Gun Beach, however, these fish are on the small side. Larger fish are at Forge River but they are fewer in number.

Skidmore's Fishing Station reported the flounders are hitting best on the incoming tide. The most productive spots are at the Coast Guard radio station, Hart's Cove and the mouth of Seatuck Cove. Dick Geiger and his son had 69 flounders over the weekend.

MASTIC BEACH

Bob Keenan of Keenan's Fishing Station reports that some nice sized flounders are being caught at the mouth of Forge River and inshore by Great Gun Beach. Crabs are also being caught in the mouth of Forge River. Bob said their worm supply has now improved.

CAPTREE

Mrs. Ben Litwin of the Capt. Litwin reports that fishing the artificial reef outside Fire Island Inlet has been very

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good. Porgies are all over and there are plenty of big blackfish up to 6½ lbs. Quite a few nice sea bass are also coming up. One fisherman aboard the Capt. Litwin scored with a 9¼ lb. fluke that seems to have forgotten the time of year he was supposed to migrate.

Very good bluefishing outside, reports Capt. Speedy Hubert. The Speedy V has been chumming over the wrecks in 60-120 ft. of water to avoid the dogfish. The blues are running 8-12 lbs. each and the average catch is running about a dozen fish per man. The Speedy V will change over to codfishing in a few weeks. The charter boat Yankee has been flounder fishing inside. There's plenty of flounders around but they are still quite small.

Capt. Rod Westerlind of the Capt. Rod said the 65 degree water temperature is keeping the flounder lulled somewhat but predicts an upward surge as soon as the temperature drops a few degrees. Flounders are still small and a slow pick is being had in the Babylon flats. Blackfishing is excellent on both the artificial reefs.

Al Kappauf of the Captree Bait Station said the blackfish and flounders are very good off both Jones Beach Pier and at Captree. He said that he has weighed in quite a few striped bass over thirty pounds and they all seem to be caught on bait. An 8 lb. fluke was weighed in and this fish was caught at the outside reef. The bass action is centered around the Fire Island Inlet and Cedar Beach areas.

BABYLON

Very good striper activity at Ocean and Oak Beaches, said Joe of the American Sportsman Center. Live eels and plugs are equally effective. Plugging at the Meadowbrook Bridge has brought in some 20 lb. striped bass. The Captree Bridge is one of the best blackfishing spots in the bay. Joe fished the Fox Creek area in the State Channel and said it was fair, with the flounders still on the small side.

LINDENHURST

John Schaefer of Charlie's Bait & Tackle reports good striped bass action on live eels at the Sore Thumb in the early mornings. Blackfish are plentiful at the Kismet Reef. Flounders have still to make a strong showing and they remain small. There was a flurry of crabs off the Wellwood Avenue dock. The boats got outside on the weekend and they were chasing bluefish east of the lighthouse.

AMITYVILLE

Good striped bass activity with live

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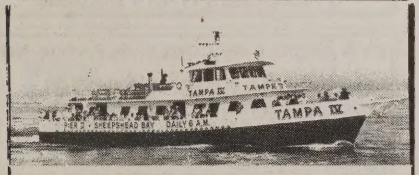

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eels being drifted in the State Channel, reports Sportackular. Jones Beach area is also bringing in plenty of good sized bass on live bunker, blackfish and eels, as well as bait. Chuck Valenti, aboard Mike's boat, caught a 32 lb. striped bass on live bunker. Flounder activity is picking up throughout the bay.

SEAFORD

Lon Wanser, Jr. of Wanser's Bait & Tackle reports striped bass are there for all fishermen. Trollers, casters and bait fishermen are pulling in some big bass. Frank Sciara of Massapequa had a 23 pounder on Friday and a 22 pounder on Saturday drifting live bunker in back of Short Beach. Sunday saw W. Sheridam, also of Massapequa, come in with a 44½ lb. bass which was caught by trolling a bunker spoon off Jones. Monday was the topper. A 52 lb. 7 oz. striped bass was caught by Bryan Beckley of Franklin Square. This fish took a Rebel cast from the jetty at Jones Inlet. Lon went on to say that the flounders and kingfish are in good supply at Florence Beach and the 2nd bridge. Loads of crabs are in the bay by the 2nd bridge. Use traps.

WANTAGH

Frank Hecker of Causeway Bait & Tackle reports he is selling lots of worms because of the excellent flounder fishing. The East Bay area, the State Channel and east of the 2nd bridge are some of the better spots. Also, drifting live eels in the bay and the State Channel is producing striped bass. Blackfishing remains excellent at the 2nd Wantagh Bridge using fiddler or green crabs.

MERRICK

Ron at Whaleneck Marina reports loads of flounders. Although some are still small, about 60% of them are of fillet size. Jack Solaway and four friends caught over 300 blackfish at the Kismet Reef and kept about 150. Ron says the striped bass are all over, both inside and outside the bay. Live or cut bunker is catching bass up to 20 lbs. in the State Channel and by the Wantagh Bridges. On the outside, live bunker is really pulling in some big bass off Short Beach.

N.Y. Bight Report

FREEPORT

Capt. Al Lindroth of the party boat Capt. Al said this entire week produced excellent catches of blues on Cholera. Al said one outstanding catch was made on Tuesday by Jerry Krystal who landed 39 good sized blues. Beginning on Wednesday the Capt. Al will switch over to bottom fishing. Al said the change is being made not because of any lack in the bluefishing but because of the overabundance of horned dogfish.

Capt. Richie Kessinger of the party boat Star Stream reports Cholera Banks has been yielding good bluefishing, with fish ranging in size from 4 to 15 lbs. Tuesday was their best day, Richie reported, with everyone aboard having an outstanding catch. Richie said Sunday was the only day he had to leave Cholera because of the large number of boats fishing this area. He fished two miles south of Cholera with equally good results. By this upcoming weekend the Star Stream will change over to bottom fishing, reports Capt. Kessinger.

Capt. John Abbaticchio of the

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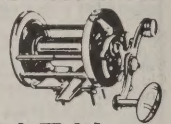

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Today's Release —
Tommorrow's Catch

charter boat Empire said despite Saturday's tough fishing conditions, like swinging on and off the wreck, his group landed over 300 blacks and porgies. On Sunday, fishing with the Hudson Bay Fishing Club, John returned to the same wreck and under ideal fishing conditions loaded up on porgies and blacks. John said Sunday's catch was in the area of 600 fish, with blacks up to 5 lbs. and porgies ranging between ¾ to 1½ lbs.

Capt. Jordan Hall of the Dock One had a wreck and reef charter of six people over the weekend. The Fire Island Reef produced ten sea bass of 2-4 lbs. and twenty five porgies. They then went to the San Diego Wreck where they proceeded to jig up sixty bluefish of about 10-15 lbs. Two codfish of about 30 lbs. and some pollack were also caught.

POINT LOOKOUT

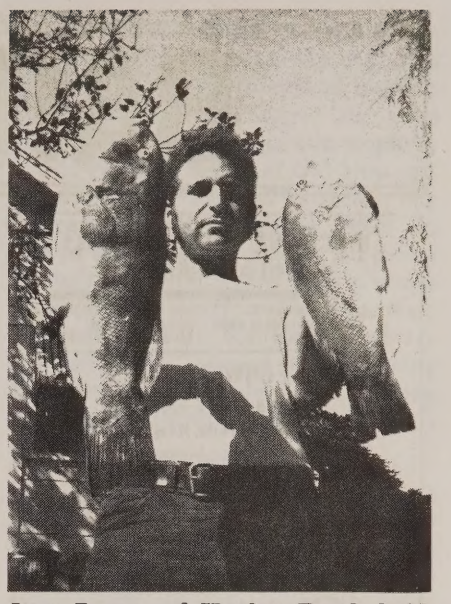
Ed Wardle of Ed's Fishing Station reports excellent flounder fishing in Middle Bay, Fundy Bay and also Swift Creek. A substantial number of good sized kingfish are also being caught in Fundy Bay. Blackfishing continues good at the Meadowbrook Bridge and also at the jetty and offshore wrecks. Crabbers using traps are doing well with the blue claws at Buoys 13 and 14. Ed reports bass fishermen are taking some nice sized bass from the surf on popping plugs, while fresh bunkers are working best for boat fishermen. On Friday Ed weighed in a bass of 48 lbs. This lunker was taken off Lido on fresh bunker by Nick Castellano of Mineola.

ISLAND PARK

John Esposito of the Commodore Fishing Station reports Capt. Clem Esposito of the party boat Commodore has been doing a nice job with the flounders in Reynolds Channel. John said Duck Point and the area off Long Beach High School have been the hot spots. John reports rowboaters are catching blackfish up to 4 lbs. in size. The area opposite Long Beach Hospital and just north of there have been the places. Some kingfish were also caught this past week. John said striper action was quiet, mostly because of the high winds and rough seas which make it difficult for bass boats to venture out.

ATLANTIC BEACH

Leon Miller of Henning's Fishing Station reports Woodmere Channel is producing nice catches of medium size flounders. Some spots were also caught as a byproduct of flounder fishing. Fishermen in search of blackfish are having little difficulty finding them for the action on blacks has been fantastic.



Jerry Prusan of Hewlett Beach holds two of the 17 blackfish he caught last week at Meadowbrook Bridge. The fish, taken on fiddler crabs, ranged from 3½ to 9½ lbs.

Leon said all local wrecks, rockpiles and the Silver Point Jetty are loaded with them. Bass buffs working the beach from Lido to Atlantic Beach, in approximately 35 feet of water, are getting action trolling bunker spoons. Leon said he stocks several brands of spoons but the one in heavy demand is called the Will-Arm-Spoon. Saturday's rough weather curtailed the bass action, but on Sunday it bounced right back. Leon reports weighing in a bass of 35 lbs. on Sunday. This bass was landed by Neil Meyer of Far Rockaway. He also had several smaller ones.

JAMAICA BAY

Bill Noehren of Noehren's Bait & Tackle reports flounder fishing is good in the area of Silver Hole and also the North and South Channel Bridges. Bill said the fish are running between ¾ to one pound in size. Fishermen in search of flounders are also landing school stripers from the North and South Channel Bridges. Action on crabs and snappers has slowed up and Bill said it is just about over. Boat fishermen can catch medium sized blacks on the hard bottom around the Marine Bridge. Eel fishing continues good from the North Channel Bridge.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Capt. Victor Becker of the Tampa IV reports excellent bluefish action this entire past week. Victor said the area of Seabright has produced consistently good catches, with fish running from 4 to 15 lbs. Victor said Friday, October 19, the Tampa IV returned with a good catch of tiles. Victor said the weather

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was poor but despite the poor conditions over 250 tilefish up to 45 lbs. were landed.

Capt. Jim Ardolino of the Amberjack IV said bluefishing could not be any better than what it has been. Capt. Jim said fish up to 15 lbs. are being caught by the tubful, with the area of the Seabright Bell yielding the best catches. Capt. Ardolino reports the Amberjack IV has scheduled an offshore wreck trip for cod and pollack which will depart on the evening of November 2.

Mike's Tackle Shop reports party boats are doing a nice job on blues, with most of the action taking place at Seabright. Party boats fishing the bottom are loading up on blacks and medium sized porgies. The artificial reef off Rockaway has produced the best porgy action. Mike's reports jetty jockies are catching small bass off the Brighton Beach Jetty casting small bucktails. Flounder fishing is on the rise and some nice catches have been made from the piers.

Vinny at Salvo's Bait & Tackle reports excellent porgy fishing at Tin Can Grounds, with fish running up to 2 lbs. in size. Stripers are available at several local hot spots. Trollers using tubes and small spoons are catching bass in the 5 to 15 lb. class at Nortons Point. Surfers also catch school bass off the Seagate jetties on plugs and bucktails. Another successful method has been drifting worms in the area of the Verrazano Bridge. Vinny reports weighing in a 31 lb. bass which was taken by Mr. Frank Lach at the Breezy Point Jetty on a Smilin' Bill bucktail.

STATEN ISLAND

Lenny Killoran of Santo's Sport Shop reports fishing for spots has slowed somewhat, however, there has been a resurgence in the snapper population. Lenny said Great Kills Harbor is infested with butterfish. Bluefishing at South Beach has slowed up while bass action at the Old Orange House and at the old pier at the foot of Richmond Avenue has picked up. Boats working West Bank Light and Nortons Point are trolling bass and big blues, while those working Hoffman and Swinbern Islands are connecting with stripers.

SANDY HOOK

Joe Julian of the Julian Bait Co. weighed in some outstanding catches this past week. One such catch was made by Billy Schmidt of Meyersville, N.J. who landed two nice bass off Monmouth Beach. They weighed in at 38 and 47 lbs. and fell for Montauk bunker spoons. On Sunday, Robert Kuntz of Old Bridge, N.J. landed a 20 lb. bluefish on a bunker spoon trolled off Sandy Hook. Another outstanding catch was made on Thursday by Bob Wallenstein who landed a tuna of 613 lbs. while fishing from his 19 ft. Mako. The fish was so large in fact that it had to be towed back and Bob didn't get back until the following morning. Joe reports crabbing and flounder fishing are excellent in the Shrewsbury River.

North Shore Report

ORIENT POINT

The Capt. Clark II has been fishing the kelp beds around Plum Island and has been doing a good job on large flounders. Fares are averaging 12-15 fish per man and these fish range up to 2 lbs. An occasional blackfish adds to the catch. Dyed clams are the ticket and they are available on board.

GREENPORT

Art White's Bait Shop reports a huge success with the Greenport Fishing Contest. Capt. George POrter of the Brand X open boat won the captain's trophy with over one thousand bluefish taken for the three days. Six fares aboard the Brand X also won trophies.

The Wilhelric fished at Old Silas and came home with loads of blackfish. The surfcasters from Horton's Point to Orient Point are also picking up plenty of blackfish. Some striped bass action is available in the surf in this same area.

Bluefish are in the Race, Pigeon's Rip and Plum Gut and they are being taken on heavy Diamond jigs. Trolling for blues is effective east of Gardiner's Island.

SOUTHOLD

The Port of Egypt Fishing Station reports the fishing is now a good mix of blackfish, flounders and porgies. Most of these fish are caught at the Greenport breakwater, the Brickyard or near Buoy #10. Striped bass trolling off the beaches on the Sound is picking up very well. Surf action is also improving.

Southold Fishing Station reports the Sound as well as Southold Bay is providing very good fishing for porgies, flounders and blackfish.

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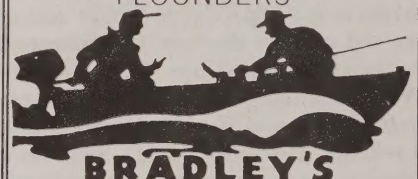

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off the beach on Tri-Fin lures. Striped bass are taken from the beach on worms or live porgies and eels. Most of the casters are using deep swimming plugs or Hopkins for their bass, with hardly none caught on surface plugs. Blackfishing is very good at all the rocky areas and may be approaching its peak. Dick said that either worms or fiddler crabs work as bait, however, fiddlers are preferred.

PORT JEFFERSON

Capt. John Fischer of the Betty W said that the blackfishing is fair to good and improving. Porgies are dwindling slightly in numbers but they are gaining in size. A few bass are around, as well as the first fall flounders. The Betty W had the Anglers Anonymous Fishing Club aboard Saturday and the Shelton Fishing Club out Sunday. Mr. Earl took Sunday's pool with a 5 lb. blackfish.

Caraftis Fishing Station reports that blues in the harbor, going over 10 lbs., are being caught either on live bunker or bunker chunks. Mr. Kramer of Belle

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Terre had one that went 19½ lbs. Blackfishing is excellent at Old Field Point with some fishermen throwing back those under 2 lbs. Flounders are just starting to show. Striped bass fishing with worms in the Narrows is picking up.

SMITHTOWN

Beacon on the Sound reports fair bluefish activity. Blackfish are being caught in increasing numbers, as well as a few flounders. Although there is no run on striped bass here, anglers have been picking up quite a few large bass of from 29 to over 40 lbs. these past couple of weeks. The fish were caught on both lures and bait.

NORTHPORT

Ted Bowman's Tackle Shop reported the bluefish are still in the harbor. Trolling with tube lures and drifting with bait will take the fish. The LILCO plant is also very productive for bluefish and the same methods can be employed. Flounders seem to be picking up well in the harbor. Ted says the porgies are still around.

GLEN COVE

Glen Cove Sports Shop reported that bluefish are ranging in schools from Hempstead Harbor to Prybil Beach. When the schools are found, these fish are being trolled with umbrella rigs and big tubes. Snagging bunker and fishing either whole live fish or chunks is a sure killer. Striped bass are being taken on surface poppers or a 5½" Rebel cast from the beaches at Maxwells, Prybil or Davidsons. Morgan Pond still has snappers and they are taking fresh bait.

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HUNTINGTON

Four Winds Tackle Shop reported the worm trollers are picking up school sized bass off Marshall Field Estates or Valley Grove at the entrance to the Coast Guard Station. School bass are being taken on clam chum in the rip off Eaton's Neck. Blues are being trolled on umbrella rigs and tubes between Buoys #11B and 13. Blackfishing is very good off Marshall Field and Eaton's Neck. Green and fiddler crabs are the baits for the blacks.

COLD SPRING HARBOR

Veterans Fishing Station reported the blues are scarce and they are being caught by anglers who are trolling for striped bass. The bass trollers are using wire line and umbrella rigs either in the Sound or in Cold Spring Harbor. The blackfishing is very good. Flounders are just starting to move in.

Mike Young had 16 keeper size striped bass to 8 lbs., all caught on poppers. Frank Herman trolled 27 striped bass with an umbrella rig.

BAYVILLE

Norm's Tackle Shop reports fair fishing this past week on blackfish and porgies. With the wind becoming more moderate the catches will increase. Bluefish are running hot and cold, according to the availability of the bunker. School bass are being trolled on worms at Centre Island Reef and Whitewood Point. Blackfish are plentiful at Centre Island Reef. Flounders are still small and they are really just starting.

CITY ISLAND

John's Gun & Tackle reports the blues are going crazy. They are being caught on both plugs and cut bunker. Larchmont, City Island and Fort Slocum are the hot spots. Striped bass fishing is improving. John says his special rig is really doing well. You can also try a spinner and worm combination. Blackfish are very plentiful and the City Island party boats are all loading up on them. The porgies are still with us.

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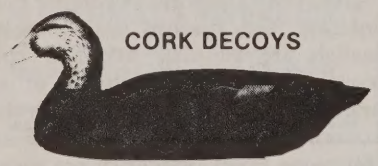
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CONNECTICUT SCENE

DICK ALLEY

WESTCHESTER

There's bluefish action inside the harbors, says Fred Archer. Anglers were snagging bunker right by the Mamaroneck Fishing Station, then baiting them and catching blues. Bass activity also showed a pickup. Paul Barbas weighed in a 27 pounder, taken on a bunker, and trollers are enjoying steady fishing for schoolies. Porgies just won't quit, and now a few flounder are showing up, too. Blackfish action has been good and is going to get better.

At Cameron's Fishing Station in New Rochelle the bluefish painted a similar picture. One angler took 16 blues between 7:00 AM and 8:30 AM right off Cameron's dock. They were feeding on small bunker. The choppers were averaging from 8 to 13 lbs. Blackfishing is described as very strong here, and school bass are on the increase around Fort Slocum's rocks. First flounder are just beginning.

GREENWICH

Russ and Doug Van Wynen of the Sportsman's Den had returned from a bad trip to Quincy, believe it or not. High winds had kept them moving and limited their catch.

Greenwich flounder are picking up daily, adds Russ, and there are also plenty of stripers. All the coves and the area around Greenwich Point are producing, and the best news is that they're hitting plugs. Blues have also been coming to the top, with lots of catches in the rivers and in Greenwich Harbor as far up as Grass Island.

STAMFORD

Chris at Pat's Marina told of a good day for Goo-Goo Eyes designer, Leo Cooper. No really big fish but plenty of action all day long. Porgies continue to bless the Stamford area with the biggest season in a couple of decades. Bass action is around the Stamford Cows and Todds Point. Blackfish are hitting well around the breakwaters.

At Kack's Sporting Goods, Jack Karwosky reports lots of blues on the bottom with bunkers. Collanders and Pratts Island have been producing well. Small bass are hitting very well around Shippan. Blacks and porgies are pleasing the bottom fishermen.

NORWALK

Rick Mola battled the heavy winds of last week and found it well worthwhile, with many bluefish around Buoy 11B in the 12 to 14 lb. class. He also found them surfacing at different spots inside the Norwalk Islands. School bass are hitting well at night, both on plugs and worms.

When we called the Tackle Box we found Bob Rueter of Pine Bush, N.Y. weighing in another fish. This guy is some kind of fisherman. He catches a lot of big stripers, and at the same time releases most of them. He was almost apologetic about keeping the 36 pounder that was hanging from the scales as he talked to me. He just "couldn't bring it around," but there were several bigger fish that he was able to release, and they are still swimming around out there. We need more like you Bob.

WESTPORT

Art Lohman weighed his first 30 lb. bass in at the Westport Tackle Shop this week. The fish was taken on a bunker chunk at Burial Hill Beach, while a sizeable bunch of guys with fishing rods stood on the beach gabbing while waiting for this year's undependable bluefish to surface. Nice fish, Art. Joe Savino fished Compo Beach and speeded up his illness recovery with seven bluefish to 14 lbs., taken on bunker. Blues are hitting at South Benson and at Jennings Beach in Fairfield, according to Ed Boland at the Westport Tackle Shop.

BRIDGEPORT

Stowie at the Sportsman's Den has had reports of good striper action in the Hoisatonic River and at Charles Island. Small poppers, Rebels and Atoms are accounting for plenty of schoolies, with most of the action taking place in the mornings and evenings. Blackfish and porgies are hitting well on the bottom, but it looks like a late season for fall flatties.

MILFORD

Vin Ciulla at the Sportsman's Rendezvous tells of bluefish on the surface at Gulf Beach. Plenty of bass around, too, with some catches reaching the 30 lb. mark at Morningside and Woodmont. Charles

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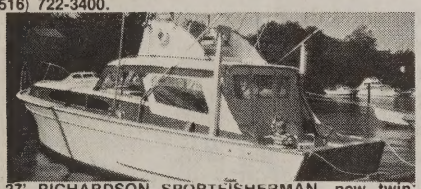

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MACKEREL GALORE: 4 & 5 at a time. 2 rigs $1. Other lures. Free List. A. Reilly, Box 21, Rosedale, N.Y. 11422.

Island and Point Beach. Flounders in this area are improving daily, with catches averaging a pound. The Rebel is currently the hottest bass lure, with the catch of the week, using that lure, going to George Helming. It was a pair of 22 pounders, back to back, at Point Beach.

NEW HAVEN

At Outdoor Sports blues were the excitement of the day. They've come to the surface in West Haven at Lighthouse, and Fort Hale from the pier. Boating anglers scored around the breakwater at Morris Cove. Hot popper is the Point Jude. Al DeMattio, for all his 14 years made it to the breakwater before school in the morning, and collected four choppers. Blacks are hitting well at the breakwater, Charles Island, Townsend Ledge. Hard bait is the story at all the above spots, but the cunners have disappeared from Six Mile Reef, and worms are paying off there.

OLD SAYBROOK

Russ Fleet reports from the Connecticut River Striped Bass Club. The fall bluefish harvest is on at Hammonassett Beach, with fishermen scoring both from boats and from shore. Bunker, eels and plugs are all working well. The Saybrook-Westbrook area is also producing. Rimas T. and Pat Abate tallied several up to 16 lbs., as did Joe Bukowski and Fred Stark. Russ and Dick Fleet scored on blue and white Atom swimmers on the night tide, with several fish going to 13 lbs. Russ's uncle, Richard Fleet, boated his first bluefish, an 18 pounder.

The Rhode Island surf is hot, with East Beach, Weekapaug, Charlestown and Quonnie breachways all producing school bass and big choppers. Rebels and Atoms produced very well. As a result of the MSC fall tagging program, a good number of the fish caught were tagged and released.

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The Long Island
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NEW JERSEY

PETE BARRETT

NORTH JERSEY COAST

Action is good for bluefish and weaks, with striper activity on the increase. Bluefish are still located all over the Shrewsbury Rocks area and can be taken on top by day, tossing bucktails or Hopkins, or by trolling and chumming in the evening. Weakfish are still schooled up tightly from Seabright to Long Branch and boaters are cleaning up. Jetty men are getting some bass action, too, as the schools move in on the beach at night and at daybreak.

Stripers are being taken along Monmouth Beach by trolling bunker spoons and tubes, with fish to 30 lbs. taken this week. Sandy Hook is giving up bass to 20 lbs. for night fishermen drifting worms. Blackfish are also abundant in this area.

Tuna are still hanging around the B.A. Buoy for chummers to play with. Schoolies of 40 to 50 lbs. are typical, but some giants like Rick Weiner's 352 pounder are also there to break a few backs.

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HUDSON RIVER

by Tom Lake

The upper Hudson continues to produce large catches of snapper blues and even some larger tailor blues to 3 lbs., regardless of this late date. Tailors are present around the Cornwall Yacht Club and hitting slow trolled small silver spoons. Snappers are hitting spearing or killies and also small silver lures. Bass action is slow, but some school size fish are being taken. Eels, spots, catfish and carp are also abundant.

The lower Hudson, below the Tappan Zee Bridge, is giving up some excellent catches of stripers to 19 lbs. with top action centered around the Yonkers side. Sheddar crabs and sandworms are the top baits and bucktails or plugs are also taking fish, by early morning and at night. Snappers, lafayettes, eels and tommy cod are also there for the taking. Sandworms are the bait for these fish. Some big blue crabs are still present but their numbers have decreased considerably.

FISHING REPORTS

For up-to-the-minute fishing information, read Frank Keating's fishing column in the L.I. Press seven days a week.

FINAL FLING

(Continued from page 7)

during the first day or two of a storm is most productive. Then the water is still not too rough or the wind too strong. During the height of the storm the wind may be too strong, thus making it difficult to cast or work your lures.

Right after a storm, when the wind shifts to the north or northwest, is often a good fishing period, provided the water isn't too dirty with weeds or too brown. Then you may have to wait another day or two for the best action.

If you start fishing in front of the Montauk Lighthouse at high tide, slowly work your way toward Scott's Hole and Jones Reef as the tide drops, and then wind up at the North Bar, you will be fishing some of the best tides at those spots. Of course, as in most striper fishing in the surf, early morning — just before and after daybreak, and from late afternoon through nightime are the peak fishing periods from shore. But on overcast or stormy days you can sometimes catch fish during the middle of the day.

My favorite months for surf fishing have always been October and early November. The cool, crisp weather makes you feel like casting and hiking up and down beaches or climbing rocks and jetties. But the main reason why I like it is because the fish are hungry, less wary, and in big schools competing with each other for food or lures. So you have more sport and action at this time of year, and wind up with more fish.

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74 year old Emil Gschwind, of 24 Cedar St., S.I., long time member of the Zimmer Fish & Game Protective Assn. of Staten Island came in to tell us about the great catches of fish from the waters off Babylon and particularly about the new Hi-Hook Fishing Station, (formerly Ski's). Hi-Hook, at the foot of Fire Island Ave., is now owned and operated by Mario Verdillo, who for many years, clammed (and still does occasionally) in Babylon's bays. Emil said the fishing lately has been sensational from Hi-Hook. He was also impressed by the way Mario was getting the station shaped up and his friendliness and his ever-bubbling coffee pot.

Emil, who has fished for about 60 years, just felt that he wanted people to know about Hi-Hook, Mario, and the hot fishing.

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The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good territory, hunting good cover during these times if you wish to find the best sport that each has to offer. The tables are not a guarantee that you will catch fish or see game during the period, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour and a half or two hours thereafter, and are in black face type. The minor periods are somewhat shorter in duration.

	A.M		P.M.	
	Minor	Major	Minor	Major
Thurs	4:10	**10:40**	4:35	**11:05**
Fri	4:50	**11:25**	5:20	**11:50**
Sat	5:35	**11:50**	6:05	**12:15**
Sun	5:25		6:00	**12:10**
Mon	6:25	**12:40**	6:50	**1:05**
Tues	7:20	**1:35**	7:50	**2:00**
Wed	8:15	**2:30**	8:40	**2:50**
Thurs	9:05	**3:10**	9:20	**3:40**

HIGH TIDE TABLES

		SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGE-PORT AM	BRIDGE-PORT PM
10/25	THURSDAY	7:47	8:06	9:17	9:47	11:42		11:13	11:40
10/26	FRIDAY	8:28	8:44	9:58	10:28	12:14	12:21	11:54	
10/27	SATURDAY	9:07	9:24	10:38	11:07	12:51	12:51	12:21	12:34
10/28	SUNDAY	8:43	9:00	10:16	10:47	12:19	12:14	12:00	12:13
10/29	MONDAY	9:23	9:40	10:58	11:30	12:42	12:41	12:41	12:55
10/30	TUESDAY	10:03	10:25	11:41		1:09	1:16	1:23	1:39
10/31	WEDNESDAY	10;:45	11:10	12:22	12:27	1:46	1:57	2:11	2:24
11/1	THURSDAY	11:30		1:18	1:20	2:29	2:43	3:00	3:16

on SANDY HOOK

SHINNECOCK INLET	+0	50
Shinnecock Bay	+1	25
East Quogue	+2	45
Shinnecock Canal	+1	18
Indian Reservation	+3	05
MORICHES INLET	+0	56
Smith's Point	+3	28
Harts Cove	+1	30
Potunck Point	+3	35
Mastic Beach	+3	28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	+0	38
(Inlet,Breakwater & Dem. Pt.)	+0	38
Coast Guard Station	+0	19
Fire Island Light	+0	47
GREAT SOUTH BAY		
Sayville (Brown Creek)	+3	39
Heckscher State Park	+3	20
Bay Shore	+2	23
Babylon	+2	12
Amityville	+2	21
JONES INLET	−0	19
Loop Parkway Bridge	+0	25
Zachs Bay	+1	25
Seaford Harbor	+2	05
Freeport Creek	+0	34
EAST ROCKAWAY INLET	+0	06
Long Beach Bridge	+0	19
ROCKAWAY INLET	+0	00
Beach Channel (Bridge)	+0	38
JFK Airport	+0	26
STATEN ISLAND	+0	27
MANASQUAN	+0	12

on NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+0	27
Connecticut River	+1	10
Little Gull Island (Race)	+0	12
Greenport	+1	04
Southold	+1	43
New Suffolk	+2	26
South Jamesport	+2	32
Shinnecock Canal	+2	33
Noyack Bay	+2	05
Sag Harbor	+0	59
Gardiners Bay	+0	21
Promised Land (Napeague)	+0	14
Fort Pond Bay	+0	29
Montauk Inlet	+0	25
Montauk Point	+1	13

on WILLETS POINT

Little Neck Bay	+0	10
Execution Light	+0	06
Manhasset Bay	+0	01
Hempstead Harbor	+0	11
City Island	+0	03
Rye Beach	+0	28

PHASES OF THE MOON

10/26	10/4	10/12	10/18
NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	Last Qtr.

on BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+0	08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0	08
Bayville Bridge	+0	13
Eatons Neck Point	+0	03
Northport Bay	+0	03
Norwalk Islands	+0	10
Smithtown Bay	+0	03
Cranes Neck Point	+0	05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+0	03
New Haven Harbor	+0	08
Mount Sinai Harbor	+0	08
Herod Point	+0	07
Mattituck Inlet	+0	19
Horton Point	+0	20
Truman Beach	+0	42

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and/or minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet —0 50" is listed under "on Sandy Hook". — 0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

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